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rethink The David Project



Results of 2018 midterm ballot issues

ELIZABETH SCHMITT | FEATURES EDITOR GABRIELLA MULISANO | CHIEF REPORTER

The Nov. 6 election placed a variety of proposed changes to the Ohio Municipal Code before Cincinnati voters. Big-ticket issues included decriminalizing various drug offenses and increasing funds for Hamilton County Children's Services.

Ohio Issue 1: Fail Issue 1 was the only statewide initiative on the ballot and would have added a new section to Article XV of Ohio's constitution to classify the obtainment, possession or use of controlled substances as misdemeanor offenses.

The bill would have prevented first- and second-time offenders from serving jail time for misdemeanor drug charges. Crimes related to the sale, trafficking or distribution of controlled substances would remain felony offenses. It would also have mandated sentence reduction by up to 25 percent for incarcerated individuals who participate in "appropriate rehabilitative, work, or educational programing." Hamilton County Children Services Levy: Pass Hamilton County Issue 9 proposed a tax levy to provide general funds for children's services, including care and placement.

Hamilton County Job and Family Services (JFS) is projected to run out of funding within the next three days due to rising state budget cuts and a greater demand for the services JFS offers. They levy for JFS has not been increased since 1996 despite rising service costs. **Cincinnati Council 2-year**

Terms: Pass

Hamilton County Issue 10 is a charter amendment that will allow members of city council to be elected atlarge for two-year terms. **Cincinnati Council Staggered Terms: Pass** Hamilton County Issue 11 is a charter amendment that will allow members of city council to be elected at-large for staggered four-year terms beginning January 2022. **Cincinnati Executive**

Session: Pass

Hamilton County Issue 12 will allow section 5 of article II, "Legislative," of the city charter to be repealed and require all city council meetings to be held in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Ohio Open Meetings Act. Cincinnati Campaign **Finance: Pass**

Hamilton County Issue 13 will amend the city charter

to prohibit unlimited and anonymous contributions made through limited liability companies (LLC) to candidates in municipal elections. The amendment will also remove inconsistencies, add clarifying language and add definitions of key terms. **Cincinnati Civil Service:** Pass

Hamilton County Issue 14 is an amendment which will delete the provision that only Ohio residents may receive the fivepoint preference given to qualifying veterans who receive a passing score on Cincinnati's entry-level service examinations. **Cincinnati Public Safety**

Academy: Pass Hamilton County Issue 15 will permit the city charter to be amended to award five points of examination credits to graduates of a public safety academy



Students show off stickers proving they voted on Nov. 6, 2018. ELIZABETH SCHMITT | FEATURES EDITOR

established by Cincinnati Public Schools and the City of Cincinnati. The five points are designed to

provide an incentive for graduates to apply to serve the city's fire and police departments.





Top: Steve Chabot wins the 2018 re-election votes on Nov. 6, 2018. AARON DORSTEN | PHOTO EDITOR

Bottom: Republican incumbent Mike DeWine defeated Democratic opponent Richard Cordray in the Ohio governor's race. WIKIMEDIA

Electoral success for Chabot, DeWine

MITCHELL PARTON | NEWS EDITOR DAVID REES | CHIEF REPORTER

The results for Tuesday's general election are in: Congress is divided once again, Ohio will have another Republican governor and Steve Chabot won his re-election bid against Aftab Pureval to represent the 1st Congressional District. Democrats have taken control of the U.S. House of Representatives, while Republicans maintained a majority control of the Senate.

Media outlets projected Tuesday night that Democrats will flip the 218 seats needed to control the House. After two years of Republican control in the legislative branch, Congress will once again be divided.

"Republicans staved off Democratic challenges in Tennessee and Texas, eliminating the Democrats' path to the two-seat gain they needed to claim the majority," reported CNN's Eric Bradner.

Republican Mike DeWine will become Ohio's next governor,

defeating Democratic opponent Richard Cordray Tuesday night. Republican incumbent Chabot defeated Democratic opponent Pureval for the House of Representatives seat in District 1, winning 51.8 percent of the vote. UC students lined up for the general election Tuesday on campus in Langsam Library — the polling

location for many students living in on-campus residence halls. Stephanie O'Rear, a first-

year theatre design and production student, said this election was the first one she'd ever voted in.

"The lines were a bit long, but it's a busy time - everyone is out of class," O'Rear said.

O'Rear said she chose Aftab Pureval to represent Ohio's District 1 after seeing his campaign ads and researching candidates online.

"I think he has really good ideas on how to help make Cincinnati better and improve the life here," O'Rear said.

Ryan Zukowitz, a secondyear finance student, said

choosing between Pureval and Chabot was a tough decision.

"I'm not really a big fan of Steve Chabot," Zukowitz said."I'm more conservative and Aftab's more in the middle, which I really liked about him."

Governor Mike DeWine (R-OH), currently Ohio Attorney General, promised to support job growth, fight the opioid epidemic, create more affordable college education through guaranteed tuition rates and improve customer service technology.

Representative to Congress (District 1) Steve Chabot (R-OH) promised to back President Trump's economic policies, support the repeal of Obamacare, increase domestic oil production and advocate for a balanced budget amendment. U.S. Senator

Sherrod Brown (D-OH), a senator since 2007, promised to support bringing clean energy to Ohio, support fair trade and said he is committed to social and economic justice. Attorney General: Dave

Yost (Republican) Auditor of State: Keith Faber (Republican) Secretary of State: Frank LaRose (Republican) Treasurer of State: Robert Sprague (Republican)

State Senator (9th **District):** Cecil Thomas (Democrat)

State Representative (32nd **District):** Catherine Ingram (Democrat) Hamilton County

Commissioner: Stephanie Summerow Dumas (Democrat)

Hamilton County Auditor: Dusty Rhodes (Democrat) Member of State Board of Education (4th District): Pat Bruns

Supreme Court Justice: Michael P. Donnelly

Supreme Court Justice: Melody J. Stewart

Judge of Court of Appeals: Pierre Bergeron

Judge of Court of Appeals: Marilyn Zayas Judge of Court of Appeals:

Candace Crouse Judge of Court of Appeals:

Robert C. Winkler Judge of Court of Appeals:

Lisa Allen

Judge of Court of Appeals: Thomas O. Beridon



Glassdoor ranked Cincinnati No. 4 on its list of the 25 best cities in the nation for jobs. ARONDORSTEN | PHOTO EDITOR

Cincinnati ranked No. 4 in U.S. for jobs

ELIZABETH SCHMITT | FEATURES EDITOR

Cincinnati was recently ranked No. 4 among the 25 best cities in the U.S. for jobs, according to an annual report from Glassdoor.

The Queen City scored 4.2 out of 5 on Glassdoor's index, which cited job opportunities for Cincinnatians in accounting, software engineering and sales. In its assessment, Glassdoor estimated Cincinnati's current job openings at 61,320 with a median base salary of \$45,000.

Cincinnati improved over its ranking in 2017 (No. 8) and in 2016 (No. 23). The city scored higher than major metropolitan areas including Boston (No. 6), Chicago (No. 14) and Atlanta (No. 19), and was outranked only by Pittsburgh (No. 1), St. Louis (No. 2) and Indianapolis (No. 3).

"I think the ranking should be taken with a little grain of salt." said Michael Jones. an assistant economics professor at UC. "It's biased toward Glassdoor and [it's] not objective, but it is certainty worth discussing."

Glassdoor, a job search engine and review site, aggregates information from employees whose companies use the site. In its rankings, Glassdoor uses a

few different factors, including hiring opportunities, cost of living, median income and home values, job satisfaction and the number of available employment opportunities.

"I think the list is a pretty narrow list of things to consider," said Jones, noting that the list does not account for broad factors like weather, crime or traffic."Job satisfaction is a fairly subjective measure, and obviously [it's] a way of pushing their site and is a good way to get people talking about Glassdoor."

Since Glassdoor aggregates data from its users, Jones said the results are likely biased toward skilled labor jobs where employees are often compensated well.

"I think it [the data] is being driven more by types of jobs that are higher paying," said Jones."People tend to be satisfied the more well-paid you are."

But for college graduates looking to join the workforce, the list could be helpful.

"I think for a college graduate, it does represent more of the types of jobs UC students are going to be looking at," said Jones.

The list's more objective measures — like employment rates and economic diversity -accurately identify economic trends in growing Midwestern cities, like Pittsburgh, Columbus and Cincinnati, said Jones. Cincinnati has a diversified economy and houses the headquarters of large public companies, such as Kroger and Procter & Gamble.

But larger cities experiencing economic growth, like Boston and San Jose, California, were either ranked lower or didn't make the cut due to high cost of living.

Still, for students looking to work in fastgrowing cities after graduation, the list could be a valuable tool.

"For a UC student, it's not a bad list," Jones said."All those cities in the top five are areas that are seeing a lot of population growth, and you want to be in a region that sees a lot of job opportunities and lower cost of living."

UC Public Safety silently discontinues Campus Watch yet notified the campus

community of the program's

cancellation. 32 students

are currently involved in

positions at NightRide, the

university's free nighttime

transportation service, to

all students who currently

participate in the Campus

"What we found is that

for riding instead of walking."

-James Whalen

Director of Public Safety

seldom used,"

folks that were interested

NightRide for riding instead

Whalen feels that safety

on campus is still covered

facilities management

and fire inspectors are

present. Additionally, the

department is currently in

the process of hiring more

fairly well — police officers,

almost always used

of walking.'

Whalen said."In fact,

[Campus Watch] is very,

Watch program.

verv

Campus Watch. Whalen

said he plans to offer

MITCHELL PARTON | NEWS EDITOR

Campus Watch, a program offered by UC Public Safety that employs individuals to monitor the University of Cincinnati's campus by foot, will be discontinued next month due to budgetary constraints.

The program's student participants currently walk across campus streets and throughout buildings to report crimes and provide walking escorts. They also give directions and greet guests at "Folks that were interested [in Campus campus events. The service. Watch] almost always used NightRide which costs the department \$408,525 per calendar year, was not funded as part of this fiscal year's budget, which

took effect in July. It will officially end Dec. 15. "In looking at the overall safety implications

and the overall student employment opportunity implications, I simply couldn't continue it as it was, so we made the decision to discontinue it," said James Whalen, director of public safety. "I'm actually operating in the red now to provide some notice and give everyone an opportunity to look for something different." UC Public Safety has not



UC Public Safety will eliminate the Campus Watch program in December, which provides walking escorts when requested. TWITTER

officers

"Let's face it, everybody in this world has a cellphone, and we never hesitate to hear when there's something going on on campus that requires our attention,"Whalen said. "Although I love having Campus Watch out there, I don't feel like there's going to be a gap in our safety program because of the absence of it.'

Lauren Bycynski. community safety manager and

coordinator of Campus Watch, said that while the program is successful, she understands budgetary concerns. "I came in at an unfortunate time because this decision was just made,

and I had to deliver the news as my first order of business." Bycynski said."There's some things that they do that could be resourced out."

The department offers a safety app, Bearcat Guardian, that includes a safety timer feature where students can select anyone in their contacts list to monitor their location. Students can set a timer when they begin walking somewhere, and if they don't make it to the marked destination, the app will notify the other party. The app also allows users to text UC's police department. It works anywhere in the world with cell service not just on campus.

"I like to remind people, on your spring break trips or something, you can still use this app," said Kelly Cantwell, associate public information officer for UC Public Safety. "It's not quite the same as a walking escort, but it's still that extra - someone's checking in on you."



A new Master of Public Administration program is being developed in the College of Arts and Sciences. ABBY SHOYAT | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

New UC graduate program to spark conversation about social justice issues

BRENDAN PRENDERGAST | CONTRIBUTOR

The University of Cincinnati's political science department is in the process of creating a new Master of Public Administration (MPA) program with a focus on social justice.

Upon successful approval, the program would become the only public administration graduate program in the country with a social justice focus, said Dr. Brandi Blessett. associate director of political science.

'The idea of social justice is to really focus on understanding issues of disparity and trying to minimize issues of inequity and injustice," Blessett said. Under the leadership of Blessett and Dr. Tia

Gaynor, assistant professor of political science, the

department expects to offer the two-year program to fulltime students next fall.

"It's fascinating to see that we're pioneering this new specialization to cater to the undeniable spike in social justice studies," said Jesse Powers, a fourth-year criminal justice student."I think UC has been effective in always keeping pace with other comparable large universities ... Given the current political climate and with the proliferation of social media, there's been a huge demand for these kinds of studies that students want."

The program is currently undergoing an approval process. In the meantime, Blessett and other faculty and staff are bracing themselves for the program's approval. The

department is creating a website and establishing the requirements for the application process. Students who wish to apply to the program will be expected to write an essay, the prompt for which has yet to be determined.

The program would particularly benefit students in fields like criminal justice, political science and African studies, Blessett said.

"Considering the direction our nation is going in regard to social justice, I think [the program] would look really good," said Thomas Farrell, a third-year political science student.

The program would allow students to connect with a network of professionals currently working in the social justice field. Blessett

said the department wants to integrate real-world concepts into the program with the goal of leaving students with realistic expectations about what the job entails.

"We have alumni who are energized about this program who will provide connections,"Blessett said. "The study is one thing, but we are trying to put a real, practical aspect to it."

The department plans to accept between 20 and 25 students for the program's first year, Blessett said.

More information about the program will be released toward the beginning of the spring semester. Blessett encourages interested students to contact her with any questions, concerns or interest about the program at brandi.blessett@uc.edu.

Fifth Third Arena celebrates reopening

MITCHELL PARTON | NEWS EDITOR

The University of Cincinnati's \$87 million renovation of Fifth Third Arena opened its doors for the first time Thursday, bringing UC basketball and volleyball back to campus.

Visitors will immediately notice the lower-level concourse that now wraps around the entire arena, as well as a new upperlevel concourse. The updated arena also features improved seating, two bars open to the public, three exclusive clubs, additional restrooms, a high-definition scoreboard, new sound system, LED lighting and an open plaza, according to UC Athletics.

A new classroom space with e-learning capabilities is also included in the facility. Student athletes will have access to updated locker rooms, as well as a theater room, team dining area and sports medicine facility.

Expanded food options from local chains, including

Frisch's Big Boy, Skyline Chili, Taste of Belgium and Buffalo Wings & Rings, are available for hungry visitors. Local breweries Rhinegeist, Madtree and Braxton are featured in the Oueen City Bar.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony preceded Thursday's men's basketball exhibition match against Tusculum University. Several UC officials and community figures were present to celebrate the reopening event.

UC President Neville Pinto said the renovation of Fifth Third Arena bends the future of athletics in UC's direction.

"This house is our house. It is ours because it is for our students, our faculty, or staff, our alumni and our families," Pinto said. "It is for anyone in Cincinnati — the Cincinnati community who shares our passion for the Bearcats."

Mike Bohn, director of athletics, said that the facility brings national acclaim to UC, calling it the best on-campus arena in the entire country.

"We should all take great pride in our collective competitive spirit and alignment that builds a multipurpose arena that matches the prominent stature of our institution," Bohn said."It will be gratifying to see the gleam of the faces of our student

athletes, guests, especially the heartbeat of the Bearcats — the students when they participate in sporting events, academic classes and graduations in this intimate facility." Greg D. Carmichael, chairman and CEO of Fifth Third Bank, said that the company is proud to have

their logo on the floor of the arena.

"As a banker, I don't get excitement too often. When I walked in, I was floored when I saw this arena — it is amazing," Carmichael said. "Fifth Third and UC are two hometown companies. Fifth Third has been here since 1858 and the university has been around since 1819 — both deeply, deeply connected to the Cincinnati community.'

Upcoming opportunities for the UC community to experience the new venue include: Men's basketball versus Ohio State — Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 6 p.m. Women's basketball

versus East Tennesse State University - Friday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.

Volleyball versus Tulane University - Friday, Nov. 16 at noon.



The renovated Fifth Third Area celebrates its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a men's basketball exhibition match. PATRICK MURPHY | MULTIMEDIA DIRECTOR (BOTH)

LIFE & ARTS



Jonah Hill tells the story of personal growth and friendship in his directorial debut, "Mid90s." YOUTUBE

Jonah Hill sums up the 90s in one movie

NOELLE ZIELINSKI | MANAGING EDITOR

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle sheets, Super Nintendo entertainment systems, skate parks and lots of teen smoking - you guessed it: the 90s. Jonah Hill encompasses the angst and edginess of the 90s in his directorial debut, "Mid90s." Stevie (Sunny Suljic), a 13-year-old from a tempestuous home, tries to find an escape from his daily routine of getting the piss kicked out of him by his older brother, Ian (Lucas Hedges) and engaging in forced conversation with his unstable mother (Katherine Waterson). He finds his escape through a local skate shop where he meets a group of four boys. Stevie quickly builds a relationship with them one he wishes he had with his own brother. Bad decisions and troublemaking ensue, and Stevie is swiftly thrown into an unfamiliar world — skating during the day, having a midafternoon fist fight and partying at night. His mother and brother are quick to notice a change in Stevie's personality. But Stevie is unbothered by his family's worries, because at least he has a group of brothers who treat him better than his own. The film contains an equal balance of scenes that are both witty and heart wrenching, making it something of an emotional rollercoaster.

For being Hill's first shot at directing, the film is very well done. "Mid90s" focuses on the friendship five boys created in a few short months, framing it exclusively from Stevie's perspective. While it is certainly a story of growth and self-discovery, it is also a lesson about learning from one's actions. The film has depth, creativity and an authentic 90s vibe ranging from the creative scenes to the costumes and dialogue. Hill also wrote the film, and the language he used is brilliant. Filled with raunchy humor and crude punchlines, "Mid90s" manages to depict the 90s in its script alone.

Hill perfectly illustrates the bond people often form over time. Though Stevie bonds with everyone in the group, Ray (Na-kel Smith) becomes a mentor for him. He shows Stevie that he doesn't have to make bad decisions to make friends, and he protects him in various times of need throughout the movie. Ray and Stevie share an intense, emotional scene when Ray convinces Stevie to bounce back from the havoc plaguing his life and focus on the good things.

Hill carefully pieces together a dysfunctional family by unifying a diverse group of kids who have various backgrounds and differing aspirations. They learn to depend on each other in times of strife and work through issues as brothers. The movie flawlessly connects with audiences, telling a raw story of personal growth and friendship. Receiving a 7.8/10 on IMDb and a 76 percent on Rotten Tomatoes, Hill's directorial debut is definitely one to check out at the Esquire or Kenwood Theatre.

Get out and do something: Nov. 2 to Nov. 4

Friday, Nov. 9

Walk on Woodburn: East Walnut Hills is hosting an evening of high culture, including art, food, drinks and shopping. As you walk down Woodburn Avenue, you can check out art gallery pieces from Manifest Gallery, indigenous craft gallery and Chapeau Couture. There will also be tarot card readings and reiki from Café DeSales, fun with Woodburn Games and food from O Pie O, where you can get 10 percent off your order with a purchase from another area business. 6-9 p.m. Friday. 2500-2800 Woodburn Ave., East Walnut Hills. Free.

International Wine Festival at Jungle Jim's: There's more high culture available Friday at Jungle Jim's. Venture up to Fairfield to get sophisticated — wine experts and beginners alike are welcome. Choose from over 400 wines from over 90 wineries around the world. There will also be decadent gourmet appetizers to nibble on so you don't get too wine-drunk. 7-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Jungle Jim's International Market, 5440 Dixie Highway, Fairfield. Prices vary.

Saturday, Nov. 10

Cincinnati Coffee Festival: Caffeine addicts, unite! This weekend you can get really, really overstimulated over endless cups of joe at the Cincinnati Coffee Festival at Music Hall. Enjoy tons of coffee samples from local and regional roasters and coffee shops and attend various trade day events to learn more about java. Seminars include (but are not limited to) latte art competitions, at-home specialty extraction brewing techniques and tips on how to pick out flavor notes in coffee. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Cincinnati Music Hall, 1241 Elm St., Over-the-Rhine. \$12.50 advance; \$15 at the door.

Bearcats versus USF: The University of Cincinnati Bearcats face off against the South Florida Bulls Saturday. Bring your UC friends, because student tickets are free. 7 p.m. Saturday. Nippert Stadium, UC Campus. Free student tickets.

Sunday, Nov. 11

UC at the Zoo: Summer has come and gone, but zoo season is far from over. UC is hosting an evening of thrills at the zoo, including various animal encounters and a sneak peek at the annual Festival of Lights. UC will even provide a shuttle for students from campus to the zoo and back, so there's really no excuse to not hang out with some furry critters and gaze upon some beautiful holiday lights. Find out more info and get tickets at the Cincinnati Zoo website. 4-9 p.m. Sunday. Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, 3400 Vine St., Avondale. \$6.

Thanks You're Welcome — Art on Vine: Want to get your loved ones something really weird this holiday season? Start early on your holiday shopping Sunday at Art on Vine, where you can buy some "offcolor" holiday cards for all your friends and family. And, you can drink some Rhinegeist brewskis in the process. Happy shopping! Noon-6 p.m. Sunday. Rhinegeist, 1910 Elm St., Over-the-Rhine. Free.





Enjoy the International Wine Festival at Jungle Jim's or the Cincinnati Coffee Festival at Music Hall this weekend. WIKIMEDIA



 $Cincinnati \ is \ home \ to \ several \ different \ theaters \ with \ performances \ ranging \ from "Alice \ in \ Wonderland" \ to "Twelfth \ Night." \ WikiMEDIA$

ANNE SIMENDINGER | SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANT

'Tis the season for performing arts, and November is chock-full of beautiful productions around town. Whether you're craving a show at the College-Conservatory of Music or looking for a night at the Aronoff to watch a Broadway production, there are plenty of options to choose from. Check out the list

below for a glimpse of this month's must-see performances:

Cincinnati Conservatory of Music "Godspell"

This Broadway hit follows the story of Jesus in his last few days through a loose retelling of parables. Composed by Steven Schwartz, this musical's score features time-honored hits, including"Bless the

A month of theater: Stage productions you can't miss

Lord,""Prepare Ye" and "Day by Day."

LIFE & ARTS

"Godspell" runs Nov. 8 through Nov. 10 in the Cohen Family Studio Theater. Tickets are free and can be reserved starting Monday, Nov. 5, at 12:30 p.m. Reservations limited to two tickets per order. Tickets can be reserved by visiting the CCM box office or calling 513-556-4183.

Playhouse in the Park "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley"

Are you a fan of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice"? A sequel to the literary masterpiece, this romantic comedy focuses on the middle sister, Mary, as she tries to find a new life path while visiting the Darcy family for Christmas. Catch its closing week of performances Nov. 6 through Nov. 10. Tickets can be purchased by clicking here or by calling the box

Cincinnati Music Theatre

office at 513-421-3888.

"My Favorite Year" Based on the 1982

comedy of the same name, "My Favorite Year" takes you back in time to 1954 where Benjy Stone tells the story of his summer of "babysitting" famous actor Alan Swann. Swann and Stone swap life stories and help each other sort through their problems as Stone helps Swann prepare for his performance in "Comedy Cavalcade." "My Favorite Year" runs Nov. 9 through Nov. 17 at the Jarson-Kaplan Theater. Tickets can be purchased by clicking here or by calling 513-621-ARTS (2787).

Cincinnati Shakespeare Company "Twelfth Night"

When a young woman gets shipwrecked and thinks her brother is dead, what does she do? She dresses as a man to earn herself a living, of course. Shakespeare's classic comedy tells the story of a young woman, Viola, who masquerades as a man to work in a powerful nobleman's house. The nobleman, Orsino, is in love with a wealthy lady named Olivia — a woman

in mourning who constantly rejects his advances. Things get more complicated as a love triangle emerges between the three main characters — all under false pretenses. Fun fact: if you're a fan of "She's the Man" with Amanda Bynes and Channing Tatum, that movie was based off the "Twelfth Night" plot, so be sure to catch the original work. Twelfth Night runs at the Cincinnati Shakespeare Theater from Nov. 16 to Dec. 8. Tickets can be purchased by clicking here or by calling the box office at 513-381-2273.

Aronoff Center for the Performing Arts "The Play That Goes Wrong"

The 2018-2019 Broadway Series continues with a current Broadway smash hit. This British comedy tells the story of an amateur acting group that tries to perform a murder mystery, only for everything to turn upside down. The script features a plethora of physical comedy, forgotten lines, stage falls and "a corpse who just can't play dead." It's sure to be a night filled with laughter and fun at the characters' expenses.

"The Play That Goes Wrong" runs Nov. 27 through Dec. 2 at the Aronoff. Tickets can be purchased by clicking here. Students can also receive half-price tickets with their student ID by visiting the Aronoff Center box office two hours before the show.

Ensemble Theatre "Alice in Wonderland"

We're ringing in the holiday season with a family-friendly favorite. This beloved children's tale gets retold with a new, modern twist on the classic story of Alice, the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire cat and the evil Queen of Hearts. Come join the crew for a tea party and a lovely time. Who knows? There might even be time for a game of croquet and painting the roses red.

Tickets to "Alice in Wonderland," running Nov. 28 through Dec. 30, can be purchased by clicking here or by calling 513-421-3555.

UC student enters Miss Ohio competition, strives to inspire girls

GABRIELLA MULISANO | CHIEF REPORTER

For University of Cincinnati student Aissatou Thiam, looks have always mattered — and not because of vanity.

The Cincinnati native struggled to feel comfortable about her looks because she was different from her peers and didn't feel accepted or understood.

"There weren't a lot of people like me," she said. "I am really dark."

As a model, Thiam has learned to love herself. She competed in her first pageant this weekend — the Miss Ohio Beauty Pageant.

"As I got older, I learned to accept myself for who I am and love myself more," she said.

But getting to this point wasn't a walk down the runway. She knows other girls experience the same feelings she did, and they may shy away from events like Miss Ohio, which should be a welcoming experience.

"In my community, we're known for having really dark complexion, so there are a lot of little girls that look up to me,"she said. "This is my way of showing them that it's OK to love yourself — even if you look different than your peers."

Thiam is a fourth-year international affairs and political science student. Her love for history and drive to help others inspired her field of study. In everything Thiam does, her first desire is to help people. For her, modeling and pageantry is a separate love. Still, she hopes to keep entering competitions and spreading her message of confidence and acceptance of diversity.

"Everyone is beautiful,"

Thiam said. "If you learn to love who you are and what God already blessed you with, you'll learn you're beautiful, no matter what."

For Thiam, the butterflies faded quickly once she learned that all the other women who were competing were so uplifting. She says the interview portion was the most nerve-wracking, simply because she realized how intelligent and caring her competitor was. Walking into the pageant, Thiam had a lot of misgivings that made her wary. But she couldn't have misjudged the pageant world more, she said, finding herself pleasantly surprised when she met the girls she would be competing against.

"There were people all over that had different looks and body types,"she said. "They were giving each other advice ... they'll come sit by you, ask you questions and get to know you. It felt more like a woman empowerment thing ... it didn't feel like a competition at all."

Though she walked away from the competition without an award, Thiam said she found friends, memories and an eyeopening experience.

"If it crosses your mind to enter a pageant, I say go for it,"she said."Don't second guess it."

Since the pageant, many of Thaim's nearly 12,000 Instagram followers have thanked her for being an inspiration and a beacon of self-confidence. Always remaining humble, she feels like a winner by simply being involved and is happy to have had the opportunity to inspire.



Miss Ohio participant and UC student, Aissatou Thiam, encourages body positivity and diversity on and off the runway. $\ensuremath{\textit{WKMEDIA}}$





University of Cincinnati's back-up quarterback Hayden Moore throws the ball during the game against Naval Academy on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 3, 2018, at Nippert Stadium. ABBY SHOYAT | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER



Bearcats return to national rankings after win over Midshipmen

University of Cincinnati football's head coach Luke Fickell during their blowout game against the Navy Midshipmen on Saturday afternoon, Nov 3, 2018, at Nippert Stadium. ABBY SHOVAT [CHEF PHOTOGRAPHER

MATT HUFFMON | SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Cincinnati football team defeated the Navy Midshipmen 42-0 Saturday afternoon at Nippert Stadium, improving to 8-1 overall and 4-1 in the American Athletic Conference (AAC).

The dominant performance was revenge for the Bearcats, who fell to Navy 42-32 on the road last season after allowing 569 yards of rushing.

"If you study it, you learn from it," UC head coach Luke Fickell said postgame. "We have some young guys playing that weren't there last year, and they had to be able to feel the intensity in the things we needed to do to come out and perform like this." Here are some of the most notable takeaways from the win:

Defense stifled the triple-option

Navy's triple-option offense proved to be fruitless, giving up only 171 total yards (124 rushing, 47 passing).

"We played complementary football," Fickell said. "The focus a lot of times is on the defense when you play Navy, just because of the uniqueness of the option. There's a lot of burden on the offense as well — their ability to move the football, start fast and get you out front to where you can play a little bit different defensively. It all came together today."

Broughton's big day

Defensive tackle Cortez Broughton was named AAC Defensive Player of the Week for his standout performance in halting the Midshipmen.

The Bearcats' senior captain registered a

career-high and team-high 10 tackles, including 1.5 tackles-for-loss and half of a sack.

"As far as our scout team this week [in practice], they moved faster than Navy did," Broughton said postgame. "When we went out there and lined up today, it was second nature ... with the drills we did in practice, I was like 'somebody's going to be hurt,' but at the same time, we needed it, and it paid off."

Return to the rankings

UC was nationally ranked at No. 20 in The Associated Press (AP) Poll and No. 21 in the Amway Coaches Poll heading into their week-eight matchup at Temple University. After falling 24-17 in overtime, the Bearcats dropped out of the rankings.

The team made its return to the polls Sunday, earning the No. 25 spot in the AP and No. 23 in the Coaches polls.

Ridder continues to be a dual-threat

Aside from the Temple loss, redshirt freshman quarterback Desmond Ridder has demonstrated consistency both running and passing. Saturday was no exception.

Before being replaced by senior Hayden Moore midway through the third quarter due to the lopsided score, Ridder threw for 178 yards on 13-of-17 attempts and a touchdown (55-yards to junior wide receiver Rashad Medaris).

Ridder added 66 rushing

yards on seven carries, including a 7-yard touchdown in the second quarter.

Loss of a leader

Junior middle linebacker Perry Young, who leads the team with 45 tackles this season, was injured shortly before halftime and didn't return in the second-half.

On Sunday, the team confirmed Young suffered a torn ACL and will likely miss the rest of the season after undergoing surgery.

Bring on the Bulls

The Bearcats return to Nippert Stadium Saturday, Nov. 10, to face the 7-2 (3-2 AAC) University of South Florida (USF) Bulls. Kick-off is scheduled for 7 p.m., and ESPNU will provide television coverage.

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Nearly a century in the making: Bearcats battle Buckeyes guys that played the same

MATT HUFFMON | SPORTS EDITOR

For the first time in nearly a century, the University of Cincinnati and Ohio State University will meet for a regular-season men's basketball game. Wednesday's contest at the newly-renovated Fifth Third Arena is the season-opener for both teams.

The Bearcats and Buckeyes last met in the Queen City on January 3, 1920, which resulted in a 35-13 UC victory.

The schools have met multiple times in postseason action. UC upset OSU in 1961 (70-65) and 1962 (71-59) to capture the NCAA Championship before being upended by the Buckeyes 81-66 in the Sweet 16 of the 2012 NCAA tournament.

"I appreciate [Ohio State] coach [Chris] Holtmann and their athletic director Gene Smith for their forward and

modern thinking,"UC head coach Mick Cronin said before practice Monday. "The game is a positive. The thing I like is that we don't have hatred for each other. It's a game of basketball with two coaches who really respect each other." Here are a few headlines to

watch for Wednesday:

New roles

The Bearcats lost 2017-18 seniors Gary Clark and Kyle Washington to graduation, while junior Jacob Evans III was selected in the firstround of the 2018 NBA Draft.

OSU lost seniors Jae'Sean Tate and Kam Williams to graduation, while junior Keita Bates was selected in the second-round of the draft.

"Ohio State is very similar to us [in terms of players with new roles],"Cronin said."They lost three

amount of minutes that our big-three did. You have all these guys now that have to play well or their team's not going to win. There's a difference between being on a team and being the reason your team wins ... you can talk all you want in practice but experience is the only thing to change it." Bearcats freshmen guard Logan Johnson and forward LaQuill Hardnett are expected to come off the bench for their first collegiate action against the Buckeyes.

Projected Bearcats starting lineup

Cane Broome, 6-foot senior guard Justin Jenifer, 5-foot-10 senior guard

Jarron Cumberland, 6-foot-5 junior guard/forward Tre Scott, 6-foot-8 redshirt-

junior forward

Nysier Brooks. 6-foot-11 junior center

Defense on Kaleb Wesson

Kaleb Wesson, the Buckeyes 6-foot-9 sophomore forward, had a breakout freshman year after averaging 10.2 points and 4.9 rebounds to earn a spot on the Big Ten All-Freshman team

Without the defensive abilities of Clark, look for UC's Scott and Brooks to accept the task of slowing down Wesson.

Future meetings UC and OSU will meet again next season at Value City Arena in Columbus. "We're playing a team and

a coach that stands for the exact same stuff [as us]," Cronin said. "I think it's great that we're playing. Hopefully we can play for a long time and scrape out a

few wins here and there. It's great for basketball in Ohio, but it's definitely going to make us a better team." Wednesday's tip-off is set for 6 p.m. ESPN2 and 700 WLW will provide

coverage. Tickets are sold out, according to www. gobearcats.com. Follow @Sports_TNR on Twitter for live updates of the action.



Bearcats junior guard Jarron Cumberland drives to the basket during the exhibition game against Tusculum University on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018, at Fifth Third Arena. PATRICK MURPHY | MULTIMEDIA DIRECTOR



University of Cincinnati's quarterback Desmond Ridder hands the ball to running back Michael Warren II during the game against the Naval Academy on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 3, 2018, at Nippert Stadium. ABBY SHOYAT | CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bearcats brace for struggling Bulls

MATT HUFFMON | SPORTS EDITOR

After wrecking the Navy Midshipmen 42-0 to improve to 8-1 overall and 4-1 in the American Athletic Conference (AAC), the University of Cincinnati football team returns to Nippert Stadium Saturday to clash with the 7-2 University of South Florida (USF) Bulls.

Last season, the Bulls utilized a 20-point second-quarter to blow out the Bearcats 33-3 in Tampa, Florida.

USF scratched its way to a 7-0 record before falling 57-36 at the University of Houston Oct. 27 and 41-15 last week against Tulane University.

UC head coach Luke Fickell said the Bulls' recent struggles have no impact on the way his team has approached the matchup.

"As far as the psyche [USF], this is still a big game," Fickell said in a Tuesday news conference."They're going to walk in here whether they played great last week or not in an atmosphere that's going to be really electric, and they're going to play their butts off. We've got to be able to match

that. If we just worry about ourselves and make sure we learn from the mistakes that happened last year, I think that's plenty of motivation for us.'

UC running back Michael Warren II could go over 1,000 yards for the season with a strong performance against USF, as he currently has 931. The sophomore ranks fourth in the NCAA Football Sub-Division (FBS) with 14 rushing touchdowns.

"Mike's built for this," Fickell said."He's built for November. I mean, that's just the kind of tough, hard-nosed football player he is ... it gives him the opportunity to understand that November is where the game is really won, and you've got to take care of yourself. He's put himself in a great position, and he's helped us a lot. We're going to continue to need him." The Bulls are led on offense

by junior quarterback Blake Barnett, who has amassed 2,395 passing yards on 189of-304 attempts, including 11 touchdowns and nine interceptions.

Junior running back Jordon Cronkite leads USF's rushing attack with 946 yards on 136 carries and seven scores.

Senior Tyre McCants leads the Bulls' receiving corps with 538 yards on 51 receptions for two touchdowns. USF freshman receiver Randall St. Felix is a big-play threat, averaging 20.2 yards per catch.

Nippert Stadium is expected to be near capacity (40,000) Saturday after 36,318 were in attendance for the Navy win.

"I love it, but I'm more excited for our players," Fickell said. "Some guys have been here for five years and they've seen [Nippert Stadium full], but there's a lot of guys who haven't. To be able to go out there and have the kind of buzz that we had last week and the buzz we'll have this week, I think that's what college football is all about. I'm so excited for those guys to have an opportunity to get to play in that kind of atmosphere."

This is the Bearcats' first game under the lights since Sept. 15, as kick-off is scheduled for 7 p.m. ESPNU and 700 WLW will provide full coverage. Tickets are still available at www.gobearcats. com.



SAMI STEWART | OPINION EDITOR

Halloween is over. Christmas is around the corner. And that means we replace our allotted homework hours with conversations with distant relatives. "How's school?""Keeping your head above water?""What's the plan after college?"I think I'd rather be stuck in a never-ending multiple choice exam than repeat the same rehearsed answers to every member of my family.

I'm so busy it hurts. I'm neither sinking nor swimming. I'm hoping to be employed after graduation, but that might be a long shot. I'll probably disappoint them by getting a degree and end up being a barista until I die. I don't mind — it sounds lovely! But let's not add to my already towering stack of anxieties concerning my post-collegiate life. Every time one of my relatives asks me if I've started applying for jobs, I sprout five new gray hairs.

And while we're at it, let's narrowly avoid all political conversation and tense topics. We only get together in the same room once a year, and I'd rather not spend that time fighting. But the devil on my shoulder is whispering in my ear to ruffle some feathers. "It'll be more interesting than watching football or going shopping," it says — and it's not wrong. With zero dollars in my pocket and absolutely no interest in football, I'm hankering for something to do. If left unattended, it's possible I'll stir up some trouble.

While stirring the pot is one of my favorite pastimes (closely following being unnecessarily loud at all times), holiday

family get-togethers are supposed to be a few fun-filled, soul-replenishing days that leave you feeling warmer, fuzzier and significantly fuller than when you arrived.

This past weekend, my family came together for its annual combined Thanksgiving and Christmas getaway — Thanksmas, if you will. It's a hootenanny. All of us together in one room is louder than you can imagine. And it's not a Dawson family holiday if there's no competition involved. Previously, there have been ugly sweater competitions, pizza making competitions and this year's bake-off - all of which come down to ballot-style voting. Yes, I'm serious.

Don't get me wrong, I adore my family and the time we spend together. After all, they made me the loud, stubborn, outspoken, semi-uncontrollable spitfire I am. I leave every Thanksmas exhausted and astounded at my family's brash idiosyncrasies, reminded why I'm a handful that even I can't handle sometimes (thanks, guys).

So they're loud and crazy and all have attention spans as short as their fuses, but I'll be damned if they can't cook three days' worth of comfort food and send me home busting at the seams with leftovers. Even though many of them don't explicitly say it (OK, maybe the weirdo married-in aunts and uncles), they show me that they love me with big, full-squeeze hugs, snarky arguments and really, really delicious food. Maybe next time one of them asks me,

"How's the job search coming along?" I'll just shove a wad of potato salad in their face and turn on the game.



This week Opinion Editor Sami Stewart talks about the double-edged sword of family gatherings during the holidays. WIKIMEDIA



"Free" sign in Clifton, Ohio on Tuesday, Oct. 30. PROVIDED BY LAUREN RENNER

Thriftiness is essential, especially for international college students

KESHAV VINOD | STAFF REPORTER

It's a universal fact: college isn't easy. Juggling countless assignments and exams while maintaining an active social life makes for a busy schedule. But the worst problem that college students have to deal with is money.

"Thriftiness" is the motto for college students. Saving money and being economical is the answer. I have been embarrassingly cheap several times, haggling over every cent whenever I can. This trait applies even more to international students like myself.

International students pay way more for tuition and we aren't allowed to work any off-campus jobs, which means the only way we can supplement any income is to somehow find work on campus. That's notoriously hard to do unless you know someone who has an "in" with a particular department.

I'm probably not the only one who does this, but before I buy something,

I convert the price from dollars to my home country's currency — which is normally followed by a verv heavy sigh.

That's why I'm thankful whenever I see flyers that advertise free stuff. I go to multiple club meetings just because they have free pizza. I don't even know the names of the clubs I joined, but I know where they meet every week and just go for the food.

There are plenty of things locally you can do that won't cost a cent. The most fun thing for me is to catch a show or two at CCM. Sometimes they're free or heavily discounted for students. Plus, the performers are really talented. You won't be disappointed.

You can also get free tickets for football games if you're a UC student, and with the way the team is currently performing, free tickets are bound to sell out fast. Keep your eyes peeled for the email regarding free tickets.

Findlay Market is a great place to just walk around.

It's filled with small and quirky shops that are really fun to explore. And, more often than not, food places offer free samples (take two — they probably won't care).

If you're feeling a bit artsy, the Cincinnati Arts Museum is great place to check out. General admission is always free and the artwork is simply magnificent. It's something you definitely won't regret doing.

If you're a movie buff, sometimes the theater inside Tangeman University Center offers free showings. They have free movies every week, and it's really nice to take a break from everything and to go catch a movie — even if that means seeing "Finding Dory" for the 50th time.

Most people make fun of me for being this frugal, but what they don't understand is that money is a big deal for me. College is expensive, especially if you're an international student. Every opportunity I get to save some money, I'm going to take it.

OPINION

It's time for student government to reject The David Project

LAITH SHEHADEH | CONTRIBUTOR

Student government is supposed to be a place for progressive, forward-thinking individuals who work together to better society. Candidates campaign and win by supporting initiatives that promote the community, social justice and fellow students. But for the last four years, members of UC's student government have embarked on a trip that disguises itself as a peace-building project. Realistically, it's quite the opposite.

The trip, "Israel Uncovered: Campus Leader's Mission," is organized by The David Project — an organization that "increases pro-Israel sentiment on campus by engaging Jewish and non-Jewish student leaders and their communities, with Israel," according to the nonprofit's website.

I spent the last few years building relationships with attendees of The David Project and learning more about what happens during the trip. At first, I assumed it was nonpartisan and looked at the situation from a strictly factual perspective. I have been fortunate to cross paths and make friends with many attendees, and my findings prove otherwise.

As a Palestinian citizen, I find it my obligation to express truth and offer perspective about Israel and the occupied territories, as well as explain the moral and ethical inconsistencies of the false narrative The David Project propagates. I have dual citizenship in the U.S. and Palestine, and I've spent most of my summers in Palestine experiencing the full wrath of apartheid — from the theft of my family's land to physical and verbal abuse by Israeli soldiers.

The David Project recruits "emerging student leaders" to attend its annual, all-expenses-paid trip to Israel. It markets itself to prospective attendees by claiming to weigh both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Previous attendees are encouraged to recruit others for the trip. They are incentivized by scoring a paid internship and getting a free trip to D.C. for a policy conference — usually \$600 a head — hosted by the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), which happens to be a pro-Israel lobbying

organization.

By knowingly buying into and propagating this message, our student leaders are misleading their constituents by claiming to support human rights and equality while also neglecting the truth at the heart of the situation. The David Project's biases lean heavily in favor of Israel and fail to acknowledge the plight of the Palestinians. Its blind stance on these issues — the siege of Gaza, the Israeli West Bank barrier built on stolen land and the violations of Palestinians' basic rights — shapes Israeli-favored beliefs that are rooted in lies.

At the beginning of their excursion, attendees are given a source book that lays out their weeklong journey and offers some pro-Israel propaganda. A three-page essay argues that the wall separating Israel and the West Bank — which was deemed illegal by the International Court of Justice — was necessary. Its construction displaced thousands of individuals from their homes. The essay references Pro-Israel "peace organizations," but it fails to mention war crimes and human rights injustices committed by Israeli soldiers.

During the trip, attendees are given tours of Israel that display its booming tech and startup sector, large population of American immigrants and impressive diversity and culture in Tel Aviv. After touring Israel, attendees are guided through the West Bank where they are introduced to Palestinian territories like Rawabi, where both Palestinian and Israeli citizens are living in supposed peace. But the fact of the matter is, Rawabi opens itself to the elite exclusively.

Attendees aren't taken to the refugee camps where some Palestinians live without access to power or clean water and go to sleep hungry because Israeli settlers have confiscated their land and means to farm. I've spent time in these refugee camps. The living standards are deplorable. They don't visit Gaza, where 1.8 million people are living inside the walls of "an open-air prison."The David Project deliberately ignores the slow ethnic cleansing that is pushing Palestinians out of land that is rightfully theirs. The tour includes a trip to the settlements — cities where

only Jews are permitted to reside. They are built on stolen

Palestinian land, controlled by Israeli soldiers and are illegal in the eyes of the International Court of Justice, the United Nations and the United States. Attendees are told that the settlements bring economic development to both Palestinians and Israelis and serve as a channel of communication and a tool for relationship-building between both sides.

Settlers venture down the mountain and terrorize villages including mine — stealing our land, burning our crops, throwing tear gas into our schools and shooting anyone who resists. This experience is not unique to my family; rather, it's the everyday life of nearly every Palestinian. These are the untold stories that attendees of The David Project are never made aware of.

Palestinians are barred from entering Jerusalem to pray at holy sites and are often forcefully evicted from their homes so that Orthodox Jews can occupy more territory. We are given no right to protest peacefully; rather, we are given harsher sentences for the same crimes committed by Israelis. Two different groups of people living on the same land are governed by two different laws. We are forced to live in an open-air prison and expected to comply without resistance. Many of my friends and family have been arrested, beaten and even killed for simply demanding the basic human right of existence.

If our representatives at UC genuinely care about human rights, why do they continue to attend and propagate an organization that perpetuates the values our leaders claim to defy?

Many of them don't realize that by attending, they indirectly support the project's mission. Regardless of our student leaders' views, their silence regarding the suffering of millions speaks far louder than they realize. The state of Israel is anything but just. Its existence is built upon the displacement of millions of Palestinians, and its laws contain clauses supporting collective punishment, institutionalized racism, discrimination and protection for those who kill Palestinians. It's time our university's leaders rejected the David Project and stopped attending events that support Israel altogether.



Laith Shehadeh believes UC's student government is turning a blind eye to injustive by supporting The David Project. **PROVIDED BY LATH SHEHADEH (BOTH)**



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